

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 OES-07 SS-15 AGRE-00 LAB-04
HEW-06 HUD-02 DOTE-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 COME-00
NAS-01 NSF-02 OPIC-06 FAA-00 DOE-11 SOE-02 NSC-05
EA-12 L-03 /100 W
-----100982 191200Z /23

R 191051Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7036

UNCLAS TEHRAN 1748

FOR NEA/IRN NAAS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: USIRJC
SUBJ: US-IRAN JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
TEHRAN FEBRUARY 15-16

REF: NAAS-MIKLOS TELECON FEB 8

1. JOHN BREWER AND WALTER SURREY GAVE TO BREWIN THE
ESSENCE OF WHAT WAS DECIDED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE BUSINESS COUNCIL ON A FEW OF THE ACTION ITEMS.
NO COMMUNIQUE OR MINUTES WAS ISSUED HOWEVER. IF THERE IS
TO BE MENTION IN THE USIRJC COMMUNIQUE OF THE BUSINESS
COUNCIL MEETING, PARTICULARLY ANY MEETING IN US OF
THE WHOLE COUNCIL, YOU SHOULD CONSULT WITH BREWER ON THE
LANGUAGE. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF BREWER/SURREY ORAL
REPORT.

A. TAX ISSUES

I. SOCIAL SECURITY AGREEMENT--COUNCIL HAS RECEIVED
COPY OF IRAN-SOUTH KOREA DRAFT AGREEMENT AND STRONGLY
FAVORS A US-IRAN ACCORD ON SOCIAL SECURITY COVERAGE
MODELED ON THIS AGREEMENT TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE.
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II. TAXATION OF AMERICAN IN IRAN--
US SIDE BRIEFED IRANIANS ON STATUS OF US LEGISLATION.

III. US-IRAN DOUBLE TAXATION TREATY--
US AND IRANIAN SAIDES STRONGLY FAVORED CONCLUSION OF
SUCH A TREATY.

B. COMMERCIAL AGENTS

I. AFFIDAVIT AGREEMENTS--US SIDE DECIDED AFFIDAVIT ISSUE
IN EFFECT A NON-ISSUE AND IRANIANS CONCURRED. ISSUE
HAS BEEN DROPPED.

II. REGISTRATION OF AGENTS--US SIDE FAVORS CENTRAL
REGISTRATION OF ALL IRANIAN AGENTS OF US FIRMS BUT IRAN
SIDE EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE DOUBT THAT GOI WOULD AGREE TO
SUCH A LISTING. DOUBTFUL IF IRANIAN SECTION OF UISRJC
WILL AGREE TO ANY MENTION OF REGISTRATION OF AGENTS HERE.

C. CONCILIATION/ARBITRATION IN RESOLUTION
OF CONTRACT DISPUTES. US SIDE FAVORS PROCEEDING ALONG
LINES OF NON BINDING CONCILIATION AND HOPES GOI AGENCIES WILL
EVENTUALLY ACCEPT SUCH A PROPOSAL. IRANIAN RESPONSE WAS MIXED
AND IT IS UNCLEAR AS TO WHETHER GOI WILL ACCEPT ANY CHANGE IN
CURRENT PROCEDURES, I.E., CONTRACT DISPUTES TO BE REFERRED TO
IRANIAN COURTS IF ARBITRATION FAILS.

D. SURETY BONDS--THE CENTRAL BANK OF IRAN HAS ALREADY ACCEPTED
PRINCIPLE OF SURETY BONDS SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS.
THE TASK NOW SEEMS TO BE ONE OF SELLING THE PROPOSITION OF SURETY
BONDS TO GOI MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES NOW DEMANDING BANK GUARANTEES.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BUSINESSMEN, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TEHRAN01748
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780077-0336
Format: TEL
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780235/aaaabdui.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 351661d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 feb 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3543237
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-IRAN JOINT BUSINESS COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING TEHRAN FEBRUARY 15-16
TAGS: BGEN, US, IR, USIRJC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/351661d3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014